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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/049,309	02/12/2002	Hidenobu Ito	Q68131	3723

7590 06/13/2003

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EXAMINER

JONES, JUDSON

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 06/13/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/049,309

Applicant(s)

ITO ET AL.

Examiner

Judson H. Jones

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 16 and 17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 14, 15 and 18-30 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11-13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 0902
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Objections

Claims 11-13 are objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 1 recites "a rotation-to-reciprocation converting means located on the same axial line ..." Claims 11-13 then recite "a motor rotation-to-reciprocation converting means ..." There seems to be only one rotation-to-reciprocation converting means. Therefore claims 11-13 should read something like, "said rotation-to-reciprocation converting means being a motor rotation-to-reciprocation converting means." Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 16 and 17 objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend on another multiple dependent claims. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims 16 and 17 have not been further treated on the merits.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-10, 14, 15 and 17-30 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record does not disclose or teach a thrust converter comprising a reciprocating means, a reciprocating-to-rotation means and a rotation-to-reciprocating means combined with a reaction force receiving means for receiving reaction force against the reciprocating motion of the rotation-to-reciprocation means and further combined with a moving means for moving the reciprocation-to-rotation means and the rotation-to-reciprocation means separately from the driving force due to the reciprocating motion of the reciprocating means as recited in claim 1.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Shiotani 4,842,476 A discloses a thrust converter comprising (1) a rotary motor for a driving means in combination with a feed screw 13 to provide reciprocating movement, (2) a


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reciprocating-rotation converting section having movable frame 5, movable support 11 and rotating pulley 19a, (3) a rotation-reciprocating conversion section having rotating pulleys 23, 27 and (4) reciprocating means 31. The reaction force receiving section for supporting reaction force of the rotation-reciprocation conversion comprises rail portion 11a and chuck mounting plate 31.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Judson H Jones whose telephone number is 703-308-0115. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on 703-308-1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3431 for regular communications and 703-305-3432 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

JHJ 
June 8, 2003

